



Stage 1 Drought Condition Recommended

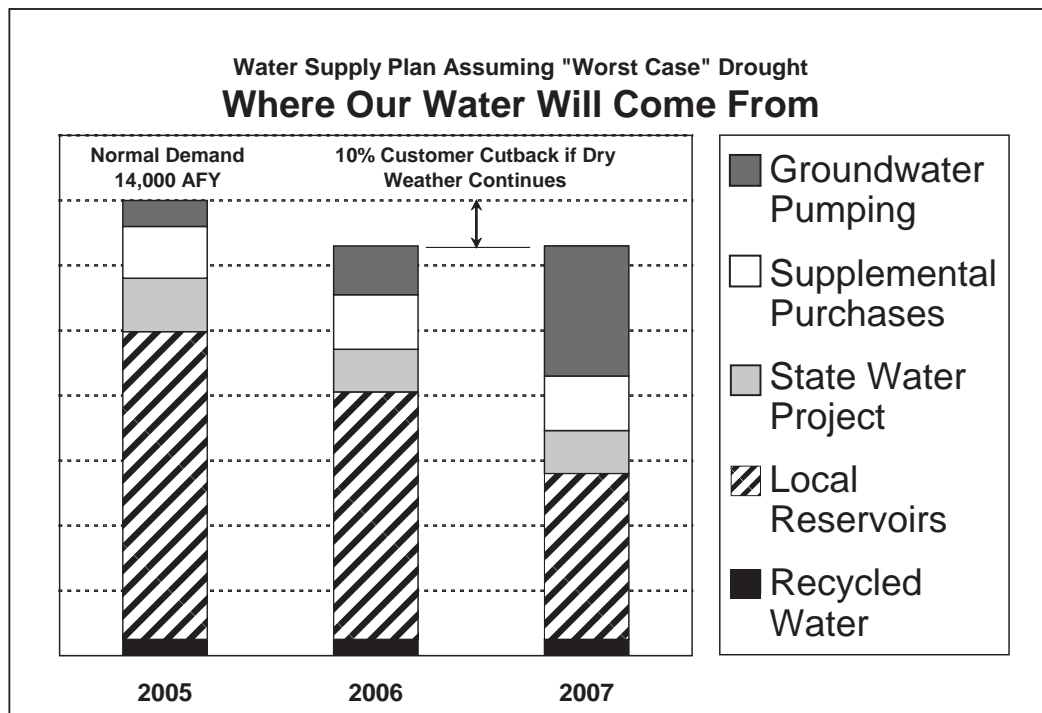
During January, the City Council will review a recommendation to declare a Stage 1 Drought Condition as a result of three consecutive years of dry weather. Stage 1 is considered a "Drought Watch," meaning there is a potential for water supply shortages during the next three years. However, alternate supplies are available and the city does not expect to ask for cutbacks of more than 10%, even under assumed "worst case" conditions. Extraordinary drought measures are not necessary, but customers are encouraged to take advantage of the city's award-winning water conservation program.

SANTA BARBARA



The Water Supply Situation

Local reservoirs normally provide 80-90% of the city's water supply, so we pay particular attention to the storage level at Lake Cachuma, the area's main reservoir. It takes above average rainfall to fill Cachuma, which has not occurred during the past three years. As a result, the lake has dropped to about one third of total capacity. For planning purposes, the city has developed a "worst case" drought scenario that assumes three more years of below average rainfall. This would be six consecutive years of dry weather, a situation that has not occurred in recorded history. If this scenario plays out, Lake Cachuma would be essentially empty by 2007.



Fortunately, the city's water supply plan includes alternate supplies that can be used to make up for reduced reservoir deliveries and avoid the level of shortages experienced during the previous drought of 1987-1991. The city will use "carryover" Cachuma water (surplus from previous years). We will request full deliveries from the State Water Project and purchase supplemental water from northern California for delivery through State Water Project facilities to make up for anticipated shortages of state water.
(continued on back)

Stage 1 Drought Condition Recommended (cont.)

Groundwater pumping will increase to as much as one third of our supply. The chart illustrates how demand would be met under the “worst case” scenario. While the city’s desalination plant is not expected to be needed under this scenario, the facility can be recommissioned if the drought becomes even more severe than the “worst case” assumption. The City Council will receive an update on the water supply situation in the spring, when runoff into our reservoirs from winter rains can be projected.

Conservation Opportunities

So is it time to paint your lawn green? No, just be sure that you’re not over-watering — especially now that it’s winter — and consider less thirsty plants for your landscaping. Is it okay to flush the toilet? Yes, but confirm that it is one of the newer 1.6 gallons-per-flush models, that the flapper valve is closing properly, and that the water level in the tank is at least ½” below the top of the overflow tube. In other words, we don’t need to take extraordinary drought measures at this time, but efficient water use is always a good idea, and it saves money too. If you need help, call (805) 564-5460 for a free water check-up or information about saving water, or visit www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov and www.sbwater.org.

Inside Santa Barbara, City TV – Channel 18

Airing January 8th through February 5th:

Program Highlights

- MTD Valley Express / My Ride Bus Pass Program
- Built Green Santa Barbara
- Adult Literacy Program
- Waterfront Construction Projects Update
- Street Sweeping
- Sister City Program / Toba Japan

For more information, contact City TV Production Supervisor Tony Ruggieri at (805) 564-5311, or visit www.citytv18.com.

Inside Santa Barbara

New program begins:

**Saturday,
Jan. 8th at 9:00 p.m.**

Airs throughout the month

Mon.	8:00 p.m.
Tues.	5:00 p.m.
Wed.	6:30 p.m.
Sat.	9:00 p.m.
Sun.	10:30 p.m.



DIRECTORY OF CITY DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES

Area Code: (805)

City Hall, 735 Anacapa Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Website: www.ci.santa-barbara.ca.us

Airport	967.7111	Parks and Recreation	564.5418	Distribution & Collection	
City Administrator	564.5305	Adapted Recreation	564.5421	Water & Sewer Mains	564.5413
City Attorney	564.5326	Adult Sports	564.5422	After Hours	963.4286
City Clerk	564.5309	Aquatics	897.2680	El Estero Wastewater Plant	568.1010
City Employment	564.5316	Community Services	963.7567	Engineering	564.5363
City-TV Channel 18	564.5311	Creeks and Water Quality	897.2658	Graffiti Hotline	897.2513
Community Development	564.5502	Cultural Arts	897.1982	Permit Counter	564.5388
Building & Safety	564.5485	Golf	687.7087	Pot Hole Hotline	897.2630
Housing & Redevelopment	564.5461	Senior Recreation Services	897.2519	Recycling	564.5587
Planning	564.5470	Street Trees	564.5434	Street Light Hotline	564.5416
Finance	564.5334	Teen Programs	897.2650	Street Maintenance	564.5413
Business Licenses	564.5346	Tennis	564.5517	Traffic Signal Hotline	564.5417
Purchasing	564.5349	Youth Activities	564.5495	Transportation Operations	564.5394
Water Billing	564.5343	Police	897.2300	Transportation Planning	564.5385
Fire	965.5254	Emergency Use	9-1-1	Trash Complaints	897.2618
Library	962.7653	Public Works	564.5377	Water Conservation Hotline	564.5460
Eastside Branch	963.3727	ABOP Hotline*	560.7505	Water Resources Admin.	564.5387
Mayor and Council	564.5318	Cater Water Treatment Plant	897.2628	Waterfront	564.5531
		Downtown Parking	963.1581	Harbor Patrol	564.5530
				Parking	564.5523

*Antifreeze, Batteries, Used Motor Oil and Filters, Latex Paints

NEWS UPDATE for City News in Brief, January 2005 Edition

The Stage 1 Drought Declaration has been deferred:

On January 4, 2005, the City Council adopted a revised staff recommendation to defer action on a Stage 1 Drought Condition as a result of substantial recent rainfall. At the time the original recommendation to declare Stage 1 was developed, our primary water supply at Lake Cachuma was down to about 1/3 of its capacity as a result of three consecutive years of below-average rainfall. However, storms through January 4th have filled Gibraltar Reservoir and produced almost 40,000 acre-feet of inflow into Lake Cachuma, raising the storage level to above 50%.

Staff will update the City Council in the spring about water supply conditions and whether any action is recommended.

As always, water conservation continues to be recommended, and city water customers are encouraged to call (805) 564-5460 for more information, or visit the city's website at www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov, or Santa Barbara's regional water website at www.sbwater.org.